

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A recording tape cartridge comprising:

a reel;

a recording tape, one end of the recording tape being anchored at the reel, and the recording tape being wound on the reel;

a leader member attached to another end of the recording tape;

a case having an opening for pulling-out of the leader member, the case rotatably accommodating the reel; and

holding portions formed at a ceiling-~~surface~~ wall and a floor-~~surface~~ wall of the case, and holding the leader member in a vicinity of the opening,

wherein the holding portions have cut-outs which are continuous from the opening, and ~~sides of the cut-outs near the opening are open,~~ wherein said cut-outs are defined by a through-slot that extends from an interior surface to an exterior surface of the respective ceiling wall and floor wall.

Claim 2 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the leader member has an anchor portion at each end portion of the leader member, and the anchor portions are inserted into the cut-outs.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, wherein the holding portions are formed such that open sides of the cut-outs can elastically deform ~~in~~ directions of closing so as to narrow ends of the cut-outs that are continuous from the opening.

Claim 4 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 1, further comprising closing members which close the cut-outs.

Claim 5 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 2, further comprising holding members which hold the leader pin by abutting respective portions of the anchor portions.

Claim 6 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 2, wherein the leader member comprises a leader pin.

Claim 7 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 6, wherein each anchor portion has at least two convex portions and an annular groove between the at least two convex portions, and the leader pin is inserted into the cut-outs such that the annular grooves are disposed in the cut-outs.

Claim 8 (original): The recording tape cartridge of claim 6, wherein the anchor portions are formed from extending portions which extend from both end portions of the leader pin in an axial direction of the leader pin, and the extending portions are inserted in the cut-outs.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A leader pin, in combination with a case, to which is fixed one end of a recording tape which is wound on a reel rotatably accommodated in a case which has an opening and cut-outs in a vicinity of the opening, said cut-outs extending from an interior surface of the case to an exterior surface of the case, said leader pin comprising:

a shaft portion;

a fixing portion which is provided coaxially with the shaft portion, and to which the one end of the recording tape is fixed; and

anchor portions inserted into the cut-outs of the case.

Claim 10 (original): The leader pin of claim 9, wherein the anchor portions are provided at both end portions of the shaft portion, and each anchor portion has at least two convex portions and an annular groove between the at least two convex portions, and the anchor portions are inserted into the cut-outs such that the annular grooves are disposed in the cut-outs.

Claim 11 (original): The leader pin of claim 9, wherein the anchor portions are formed from extending portions which extend from both end portions of the shaft portion, and the extending portions are inserted in the cut-outs.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a recording tape cartridge having a case, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. fixing and winding one end of a recording tape on a reel;
- b. attaching a leader member, which has an anchor portion at each end portion of the leader member, to another end of the recording tape;
- c. providing, at the case, an opening for pulling-out of the leader member;
- d. providing cut-outs in a vicinity of the opening defined by a through-slot that extends from an interior surface of the case to an exterior surface of the case; and
- e. accommodating the reel in the case.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 12, wherein the cut-outs are provided at a ceiling surface and a floor surface of the case.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of inserting the anchor portions in the cut-outs.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of providing, at the case, holding portions which hold the leader member in a state in which the anchor portions are inserted in the cut-outs.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method of holding a leader pin to which is fixed one end of a recording tape wound on a reel rotatably accommodated in a case, said method comprising the steps of:

- a. inserting the leader pin in cut-outs of the case, said cut-outs being defined by a through-slot that extends from an interior surface of the case to an exterior surface of the case;
and
- b. holding the leader pin by holding members.